

CONFIDENTIAL

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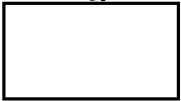
26 August 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: State's Suggestions for Intelligence Committees --
NSC 43 and M.A.P. Programs

1. I talked with Mr. Lay this morning and found out that the paper which is on file over there is a report of the 7th meeting, on July 6th, of the NSC 4 Interdepartmental Group under the Chairman of Oechsner. This confirms CIA intelligence support for the information program, but does not refer to the NSC 43 Committee. However, Secretary Acheson recently wrote you that those two committees were to be merged.
2. The fact that CIA is not mentioned in NSC 43 by name, the way it is in NSC 4, does not change the Security Act of 1947 which sets up CIA as the coordinating intelligence agency.
3. We maintain, and Lay vehemently agrees, that under the National Security Act CIA has the responsibility for coordinating the intelligence support of all interdepartmental programs, the NSC 43, and the M.A.P., as well as NSC 4 programs. Under the Act the DCI has no choice in allocating this responsibility to a State Department committee, joint or otherwise. State's contemplated merger of the NSC 4 and NSC 43 Committees strengthens CIA's stand.
4. Since Mr. Armstrong's Office, however, does not agree to this (See Babbitt's memorandum of August 15th about their discussions following the correspondence on this subject from JCS and Mr. Armstrong), Mr. Lay and I think you should have a talk with Undersecretary Webb about this new trend of State's setting up intelligence committees, mentioned in Mr. Armstrong's letter of August 2d about the NSC 43 programs and Mr. Booth's letter of August 18th about intelligence support for the M.A.P.
5. Then if State still maintains its stand, this matter could be referred to the IAC. If there is still no change, it could then be referred to the NSC.
6. Do you wish to reiterate our stand in a letter to Mr. Armstrong answering the two letters mentioned above, and say something to the effect that you feel you cannot, under the Security Act, avoid the responsibility for the intelligence support of such interdepartmental programs so will have to investigate the matter further with a view towards referring it to the NSC for final decision?

cc: AD/ORE


PRESCOTT CHILDS
Chief, ICAPS

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